Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PRETOR 05612 070926Z

17

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /036 W

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R 070900Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6369 INFO US MISSION GENEVA 450

UNCLAS PRETORIA 5612

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, SF

SUBJECT: SAG CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR DUTY ON

GRADERS AND SCRAPERS

REF: STATE 294494

1. SENIOR OFFICIAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN BOARD OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY ADVISES THAT APPLICATION TO RAISE IMPORT DUTY ON MOTOR GRADERS AND SCRAPERS FROM ZERO TO 15 0/0 STILL UNDER STUDY BY BOARD. PROCEDURE IS THAT FOLLOWING COMMENTS FROM INTERESTED PARTIES, STAFF STUDY IS DONE AND PRESENTED TO BOARD FOR DECISION. IF FAVORABLE, MATTER GOES TO MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS FOR FINAL DECISION AFTER VIEWS OF OTHER SAG AGENCIES RECEIVED. BOARD DECISION REPORTEDLY BASED ON MERTIS OF CASE AND INTERNATIONAL IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING GATT COMMITMENTS WOULD BE FACTORED IN PRIOR TO MINISTER'S DECISION. WHILE STATUTORY SIX WEEKS PERIOD FOR COMMENTS BY INTERESTED PARTIES HAS EXPIRED (NOTICE POSTED AUG 27), BOARD OFFICIAL STATED BOARD WOULD BE STILL WILLING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS IF THEY WERE MADE FAIRLY QUICKLY. BOARD OFFICIAL WOULD NOT PROJECT TIME FRAME FOR DECISION ON THIS ISSUE BUT NOTED PROCESS CAN VARY BETWEEN THREE MONTHS AND A YEAR. GIVEN WILLINGNESS OF BOARD TO STILL ACCEPT COMMENTS, WE WOULD NOT EXPECT BOARD DECISION BEFORE JANUARY

2. OFFICIAL IN S.A. DEPT OF COMMERCE IN CHARGE OF GATT AFFIARS STATES THAT MOTOR GRADERS ARE NOT BOUND UNDER UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

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GATT BUT THERE IS A GATT BINDING FOR SCRAPERS TO THE U.S.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment:
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